

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 148760  
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 FEA-01 SS-15 SP-02 L-03  
PRS-01 USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /057 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:FJDEVINE  
APPROVED BY ARA:FJDEVINE  
ARA/AND/V:TSONANDRES  
-----088293 251615Z /41  
R 251544Z JUN 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 148760

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, EINV, ENRG, VE

SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION OF STATEMENTS ON ORINOCO TAR BELT

1. IN JUNE 24 PRESS BACKGROUNDER ON PEREZ STATE VISIT, DEPARTMENT OFFICER WAS ASKED INTER ALIA ABOUT ORINOCO TAR BELT. AS ALWAYS THIS WAS SUBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST BUT WE HAVE ALREADY NOTED SOME TENDENCY TO MISINTERPRET WHAT WAS SAID. THIS TELEGRAM IS TO ASSIST YOU IN HANDLING ANY QUESTIONS WHICH MAY ARISE.

2. AT NO RPT NO TIME DID DEPT OFFICER ADDRESS SUBJECT OF JOINT EXPLORATION OR DEVELOPMENT OF ORINOCO TAR BELT. HE DID DESCRIBE THIS AS GREAT NATURAL RESOURCE OF VENEZUELA TO BE DEVELOPED WHEN AND IN MANNER VENEZUELA MIGHT CHOOSE. IN DESCRIBING TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES POSED BY VISCOSITY AND IMPURITIES OF THE OIL IN QUESTION, DEPT OFFICER SAID THAT USG MIGHT BE ABLE ASSIST GOV IN NECESSARY RESEARCH ENTAILED  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 148760

THEREBY AND THAT SOME AGREEMENT TO THIS EFFECT COULD CONCEIVABLY EMERGE FROM PEREZ VISIT SHOULD VENEZUELAN SO REQUEST.  
VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PETROLEUM, BRIEFING MATERIALS, PRESS CONFERENCES, EXPLOITATION (NATURAL RESOURCES)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 25-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE148760  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** FJDEVINE  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770228-0366  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770618/aaaaapmz.tel  
**Line Count:** 59  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** d5d37e76-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2031116  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CLARIFICATION OF STATEMENTS ON ORINOCO TAR BELT  
**TAGS:** EIND, EINV, ENRG, VE  
**To:** CARACAS  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/d5d37e76-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009